

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

STR-04 /068 W

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R 311730Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8110

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTO DOMINGO 4236

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, DR

SUBJECT: DOMINICAN - PUERTO RICAN RELATIONS

1. PUERTO RICAN STATE SECRETARY (VICE GOVERNOR IN PRACTICE) JUAN ALBORS PAID TWENTY-FOUR HOUR VISIT TO SANTO DOMINGO TO ATTEND SUNDAY NIGHT'S INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MENTAL RETARDATION. AT LUNCHEON AUGUST 30, OFFERED IN ALBOR'S HONOR BY FOREIGN SECRETARY JIMENEZ WITH AMBASSADOR AS GUEST, DISCUSSION BETWEEN ALBORS AND DOMINICANS CENTERED ON REVIVING MORIBUND TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO ISLANDS. ALBORS THOUGHTFULLY EXPOUNDED HIS CONCEPT OF BROADENING THE PRESENT AGREEMENT TO INCLUDE COOPERATIVE ACTION BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES IN A NUMBER OF TRADE AREAS, ESCHEWING SUCH DETAIL AS TO HOW MANY BANANAS PUERTO RICO WOULD IMPORT FROM THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. DR. MILTON MESSINA, HIGHLY REGARDED LAWYER-ECONOMIST WHO HEADS FOM OFF FOREIGN COMMERCE COMMITTEE, WAS DESIGNATED THEREUPON BY JIMENEZ TO CONDUCT FUTURE TALKS WITH ALBORS. MESSINA SEEMED TO GO ALONG WITH THE ALBORS CONCEPT, ALTHOUGH HE EVINced INTEREST IN HOW MANY BANANAS PUERTO RICO MIGHT IMPORT FROM THE DOM REP. ALBORS UNDERTOOK TO DRAFT THE MAIN POINTS OF AN EXPANDED AGREEMENT SUCH AS HE ENVISIONED AND FORWARD IT TO DOMINICAN OFFICIALS FOR COMMENT. HE SAID HE OULD ALSO SEND COPY TO AMBASSADOR.

2. COMMENT: ALBORS IS A SERIOUS, REFLECTIVE AND THOROUGHLY CONSCIENTIOUS OFFICIAL WHO GREW UP WITH GOVERNOR HERNANDEZ COLON.
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WHAT CONTINUES TO BE STRIKING WHEN PUERTO RICANS AND DOMINICANS

GATHER IS THE DEGREE OF WARMTH AND CORDIALITY THAT EXISTS.

EXISTING AGREEMENT, OF COURSE, WAS NOT AUTHORIZED BY
DEPARTMENT AND WE MAY HAVE TO TAKE A STAND ON THIS MATTER AT SOME
TIME. HOWEVER, CIRCUMSTANCES AT LUNCHEON WERE NOT PROPITIOUS AND,
IN ANY EVENT, IT WOULD SEEM PREFERABLE TO AWAIT ALBOR'S DRAFT AND
SEE WHAT PUERTO RICAN GOVERNMENT HAS IN MIND.
HURWITCH

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Message Attributes

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